

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

SB 440 – HB 969

February 25, 2009

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires a person convicted of a felony to pay all fines and court costs imposed before such person's voting rights are restored.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

**Increase State Revenue – \$12,200/General Fund
\$28,600/Dedicated Funds**

Increase Local Revenue – \$20,000

Assumptions:

- Issuance of voter registration cards will require no additional resources.
- According to the Coordinator of Elections' Office, the average number of felons whose voting rights are restored each year is approximately 500.
- Based on a survey, the estimated amount of fines and court costs assessed to an individual averages \$1,215 in a felony case.
- The amount assessed each individual can vary significantly depending on the county and the type of felony committed.
- The majority of individuals will not have the financial means to pay such fines and court costs.
- An estimated ten percent or 50 individuals will pay their fines and court costs. At an average assessment of \$1,215 per person, state and local government revenue will increase approximately \$60,800. Based on an estimated breakdown of fees, \$12,200 will go to the State, \$20,000 to the counties, and \$28,600 to various designated funds.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White".

James W. White, Executive Director

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